

**Redistribution Committee**  
ACT Electoral Commission  
PO Box 272,  
CIVIC SQUARE ACT 2608

## **Response to request for submissions Electoral Boundaries – Distribution 2003**

Dear Sir/Madam,

The ACT Equality Party (A registered political party in the Australian Capital Territory) is pleased to provide the following submission to the Redistribution Committee.

The Equality Party acknowledges that the electoral boundaries as currently drawn already meet the legislative requirements for the current analysis in any potential boundary redistribution.

Given that the current boundaries are themselves not “perfect” in that the Gungahlin community is split across Molonglo and Ginninderra electorates and the Woden Community is split across Molonglo and Brindabella, the Equality Party thought it appropriate to table some alternative configurations for consideration.

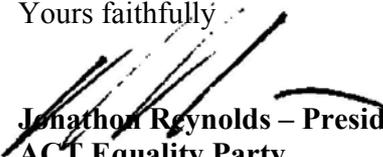
The purpose of tabling these alternatives is to demonstrate that there is no “magic bullet” to any electoral boundary redistribution. All suggestions will involve some level of compromise in order to meet the current legislative requirements. A brief critique against the assessment criteria for each of the models we have proposed is also provided.

Our four suggested alternative boundary configurations have been provided as electronic documents in Adobe Acrobat PDF format. We recommend that these files are best viewed on screen unless being output to an A3 format (or larger) colour printer.

We have also included the latest revision of our ACT Electoral Boundary Modeling Tool. Incorporating the electoral data as provided by the ACT Electoral Commission. This tool (requiring Microsoft Excel) allows an individual to “visually” assess the impact of any potential redistribution with statistical feedback indicating legislative compliance. We encourage the free distribution of this tool to any interested individuals, groups and parties.

We look forward to your favourable response to this submission.

Yours faithfully

  
**Jonathon Reynolds – President**  
**ACT Equality Party**

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**Email [info@EqualityParty.org](mailto:info@EqualityParty.org)**

**Model 01-B5G7M5 - A model allowing for geographically North, Central and South Electorates by allowing for a 7 member Ginninderra Electorate**

<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>	<b>Compliance / Comments</b>												
The Electoral Act provides that the Territory must be divided into three separate electorates with seven members of the Legislative Assembly to be elected from one electorate and five members of the Legislative Assembly to be elected from each of the other two electorates.	Complies  Brindabella 5 members Ginninderra 7 members Molonglo 5 members												
Ensure that the number of electors in an electorate immediately after the redistribution is within the range of not greater than 110%, or less than 90% of the quota;	Complies												
Endeavour to ensure, as far as practicable, that the number of electors in an electorate at the time of the next general election of members of the Legislative Assembly will not be greater than 105%, or less than 95%, of the expected quota for the electorate at that time	Complies  <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th><b>Electorate</b></th> <th><b>Quota</b></th> <th><b>Variance</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Brindabella</td> <td>4.948</td> <td>-1.04%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ginninderra</td> <td>7.099</td> <td>1.39%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Molonglo M</td> <td>4.953</td> <td>-0.95%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Electorate</b>	<b>Quota</b>	<b>Variance</b>	Brindabella	4.948	-1.04%	Ginninderra	7.099	1.39%	Molonglo M	4.953	-0.95%
<b>Electorate</b>	<b>Quota</b>	<b>Variance</b>											
Brindabella	4.948	-1.04%											
Ginninderra	7.099	1.39%											
Molonglo M	4.953	-0.95%											
Duly consider -													
(i) the community of interests within each proposed electorate, including economic, social and regional interests;	To the North: the North Canberra area is split across two electorates using David street, Wakefield Avenue and Majura avenue as the boundary between proposed new Ginninderra and Molonglo electorates To the South: the Woden Suburbs of Torrens, Farrer and Isaacs are placed in the southern proposed electorate of Brindabella. Beasley Street and Yamba Drive are used to separate the two proposed electorates in these areas. The North Canberra Community Council and Woden Valley Community Councils (as examples of significant community groups) would have suburbs split into two separate electorates.												
(ii) the means of communication and travel within each proposed electorate;	Only the southern suburbs of Torrens, Farrer and Isaacs could be considered to be somewhat isolated from neighbouring suburbs in terms of electoral boundary, however there are good transport links within the Woden District to these suburbs.												
(iii) the physical features and area of each proposed electorate;	This model is intends to introduce a logical North, Central and South stratification to the electoral boundaries. For example the current electorate of Molonglo wraps in a large reversed "C" chape from Gungahlin in the North to the southern suburbs of Weston and Woden to the South												
(iv) the boundaries of existing electorates;	To the North: Gungahlin is made entirely part of the Ginninderra Electorate moving all suburbs from the current Molonglo. In the Central Area: Portions of North Canberra are moved into Ginninderra. To the South: Chifley, Pearce are moved to Molonglo. Farrer and Isaacs moves from Molonglo to Brindabella. Torrens remains unchanged.												
(v) the boundaries of divisions and sections fixed under the Districts Act 1966.	Except as outlined above all major Districts are left generally intact.												

## Model 02-B5G7M5 - Variation of Model 01-B5G7M5

Evaluation Criteria	Compliance / Comments												
The Electoral Act provides that the Territory must be divided into three separate electorates with seven members of the Legislative Assembly to be elected from one electorate and five members of the Legislative Assembly to be elected from each of the other two electorates.	Complies  Brindabella 5 members Ginninderra 7 members Molonglo 5 members												
Ensure that the number of electors in an electorate immediately after the redistribution is within the range of not greater than 110%, or less than 90% of the quota;	Complies												
Endeavour to ensure, as far as practicable, that the number of electors in an electorate at the time of the next general election of members of the Legislative Assembly will not be greater than 105%, or less than 95%, of the expected quota for the electorate at that time	Complies  <table border="1" data-bbox="662 786 1050 909"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="662 786 783 813">Electorate</th> <th data-bbox="858 786 927 813">Quota</th> <th data-bbox="954 786 1050 813">Variance</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="662 819 778 846">Brindabella</td> <td data-bbox="858 819 916 846">4.867</td> <td data-bbox="954 819 1027 846">-2.72%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="662 853 783 880">Ginninderra</td> <td data-bbox="858 853 916 880">7.095</td> <td data-bbox="954 853 1027 880">1.34%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="662 887 762 913">Molonglo</td> <td data-bbox="858 887 916 913">5.037</td> <td data-bbox="954 887 1027 913">0.74%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Electorate	Quota	Variance	Brindabella	4.867	-2.72%	Ginninderra	7.095	1.34%	Molonglo	5.037	0.74%
Electorate	Quota	Variance											
Brindabella	4.867	-2.72%											
Ginninderra	7.095	1.34%											
Molonglo	5.037	0.74%											
Duly consider -													
(i) the community of interests within each proposed electorate, including economic, social and regional interests;	To the North: the North Canberra area is split across two electorates using Wattle Street, Wakefield Avenue and Limestone Avenue as the boundary between proposed new Ginninderra and Molonglo electorates To the South: the Woden Suburbs of Farrer and Isaacs are placed in the southern proposed electorate of Brindabella. Athllon Drive, Beasley Street and Yamba Drive are used to separate the two proposed electorates in these areas. The North Canberra Community Council and Woden Valley Community Councils (as examples of significant community groups) would have suburbs split into two separate electorates.												
(ii) the means of communication and travel within each proposed electorate;	Only the southern suburbs of Farrer and Isaacs could be considered to be somewhat isolated from neighbouring suburbs in terms of electoral boundary, however there are good transport links within the Woden District to these suburbs.												
(iii) the physical features and area of each proposed electorate;	This model is intends to introduce an alternative version of a logical North, Central and South stratification to the electoral boundaries.												
(iv) the boundaries of existing electorates;	To the North: Gungahlin is made entirely part of the Ginninderra Electorate moving all suburbs from Molonglo. In the Central Area: Portions on North Canberra are moved into Ginninderra. To the South: Chifley, Pearce and Torrens are moved to Molonglo. Farrer and Isaacs moves from Molonglo to Brindabella. Areas to the west of the Territory such as Symonston, HMAS Harman, and Oaks estate are moved from Molonglo to Brindabella.												
(v) the boundaries of divisions and sections fixed under the Districts Act 1966.	Except as outlined above all major Districts are where possible are left generally intact.												

**Model 03-B7G5M5 - A model allowing for a 7 member Brindabella electorate, emphasizing distinct electorates**

<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>	<b>Compliance / Comments</b>												
The Electoral Act provides that the Territory must be divided into three separate electorates with seven members of the Legislative Assembly to be elected from one electorate and five members of the Legislative Assembly to be elected from each of the other two electorates.	Complies  Brindabella 7 members Ginninderra 5 members Molonglo 5 members												
Ensure that the number of electors in an electorate immediately after the redistribution is within the range of not greater than 110%, or less than 90% of the quota;	Complies												
Endeavour to ensure, as far as practicable, that the number of electors in an electorate at the time of the next general election of members of the Legislative Assembly will not be greater than 105%, or less than 95%, of the expected quota for the electorate at that time	Complies  <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th><b>Electorate</b></th> <th><b>Quota</b></th> <th><b>Variance</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Brindabella</td> <td>7.060</td> <td>0.85%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ginninderra</td> <td>5.027</td> <td>0.53%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Molonglo</td> <td>4.914</td> <td>-1.76%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Electorate</b>	<b>Quota</b>	<b>Variance</b>	Brindabella	7.060	0.85%	Ginninderra	5.027	0.53%	Molonglo	4.914	-1.76%
<b>Electorate</b>	<b>Quota</b>	<b>Variance</b>											
Brindabella	7.060	0.85%											
Ginninderra	5.027	0.53%											
Molonglo	4.914	-1.76%											
Duly consider -													
(i) the community of interests within each proposed electorate, including economic, social and regional interests;	To the North: the current North Canberra area is split across two electorates using the Barton Highway, Northbourne Avenue, David Street and Barry Drive as the boundary between proposed new Ginninderra and Molonglo electorates To the South: the Woden area is logically split in to East and West sectors by Yarra Glenn and Yamba Drive between the proposed Molonglo and Brindabella electorates. The North Canberra Community Council and Woden Valley Community Councils (as examples of significant community groups) would have suburbs split into two separate electorates.												
(ii) the means of communication and travel within each proposed electorate;	The northern suburbs of Lyneham and O'Connor are orphaned from the rest of the proposed Ginninderra electorate by the O'Connor ridge. There appear to be no significant communication and travel issues for the suburbs as outlined to the south.												
(iii) the physical features and area of each proposed electorate;	With the Exception of the two northern suburbs as outlined above this model uses major arterial roads to delineate electoral boundaries.												
(iv) the boundaries of existing electorates;	To the North: Hall and Nicholls are moved to the proposed Molonglo electorate. In the Central Area: Lyneham and O'Connor are moved into proposed Ginninderra electorate. To the South: The whole of Weston Creek and Western Woden areas are moved from Molonglo to the proposed Brindabella Electorate.												
(v) the boundaries of divisions and sections fixed under the Districts Act 1966.	Woden is logically split along major road arterials in to West and Eastern sectors.												

## Model 04-B5G5M7 - A model attempting to demonstrate near perfect numerical constituent distribution across electorates

Evaluation Criteria	Compliance / Comments												
The Electoral Act provides that the Territory must be divided into three separate electorates with seven members of the Legislative Assembly to be elected from one electorate and five members of the Legislative Assembly to be elected from each of the other two electorates.	Complies  Brindabella 5 members Ginninderra 5 members Molonglo 7 members												
Ensure that the number of electors in an electorate immediately after the redistribution is within the range of not greater than 110%, or less than 90% of the quota;	Complies												
Endeavour to ensure, as far as practicable, that the number of electors in an electorate at the time of the next general election of members of the Legislative Assembly will not be greater than 105%, or less than 95%, of the expected quota for the electorate at that time	Complies  <table border="1" data-bbox="662 853 1050 976"> <thead> <tr> <th>Electorate</th> <th>Quota</th> <th>Variance</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Brindabella</td> <td>5.008</td> <td>0.16%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ginninderra</td> <td>5.027</td> <td>0.53%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Molonglo</td> <td>6.965</td> <td>-0.50%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Electorate	Quota	Variance	Brindabella	5.008	0.16%	Ginninderra	5.027	0.53%	Molonglo	6.965	-0.50%
Electorate	Quota	Variance											
Brindabella	5.008	0.16%											
Ginninderra	5.027	0.53%											
Molonglo	6.965	-0.50%											
Duly consider -													
(i) the community of interests within each proposed electorate, including economic, social and regional interests;	To the North: the current North Canberra area is split across two electorates using the Barton Highway, Northbourne Avenue, David Street and Barry Drive as the boundary between proposed new Ginninderra and Molonglo electorates To the South: The southern most suburbs of Weston Creek are split along Darwina Terrace, Streeton Drive, Namajira Drive and Badmara Street between the proposed Molonglo and Brindabella electorates. The North Canberra Community Council and Weston Creek Community Councils (as examples of significant community groups) would have suburbs split into two separate electorates.												
(ii) the means of communication and travel within each proposed electorate;	The northern suburbs of Lyneham and O'Connor are orphaned from the rest of the proposed Ginninderra electorate by the O'Connor ridge. The southern suburbs of Weston creek though not orphaned in the manner as indicated with Lyneham and O'Connor has no direct transport route to other proposed Brindabella electorate suburbs.												
(iii) the physical features and area of each proposed electorate;	This model is attempting to achieve a perfect numerical distribution of constituents across electorates whilst still attempting to maintain logical spatial groupings.												
(iv) the boundaries of existing electorates;	To the North: Hall and Nicholls are moved to the proposed Molonglo electorate. In the Central Area: Lyneham and O'Connor are moved into proposed Ginninderra electorate. To the South: The southern suburbs of Rivett, Chapman and Fisher of Weston Creek are moved into Brindabella, within Woden – Chifley, Pearce and Torrens are brought back in to the Molonglo electorate.												
(v) the boundaries of divisions and sections fixed under the Districts Act 1966.	Weston Creek is split along minor arterial roads.												